

LAX Community Noise Roundtable

Aviation Noise News Update

July 11, 2012



New Boeing 747-8 GEnx Engines / P&W Engine Completes First Flight

- **Boeing and General Electric to welcome the first 747-8 Intercontinental powered by four Genx-2B engines in Frankfurt, Germany with launch customer Lufthansa Airlines**
- **The GEnx Engines combines technologies from previous engines and provides:**
 - Up to 15% better fuel efficiency, 15% less CO₂
 - NO_x gases emissions as much as 55% below today's regulatory limits
 - **30% lower noise levels**
- **At the same time, the new Pratt and Whitney PurePower Geared Turbofan Engine (GTF) that promises double-digit reductions in noise and emissions has successfully completed its first flight**
 - The engine, the PW2100G, which is for the Mitsubishi Regional Jet, flew on a specially designed Boeing 747SP flying test bed at the Company's Mirabel Aerospace Centre in Mirabel, Quebec
- **Larger versions of the GTF for the Bombardier C-Series aircraft and the Airbus 320 family aircraft have also been tested, but have not flown**
- **P&W is now working on GTF technology to adapt the engine that could power the new Boeing 777 aircraft**

FAA to Publish Sound Insulation Program PGL Ahead of ACRP Guidance

- **The imminent publication of an FAA Program Guidance Letter (PGL) on funding eligibility for airport sound insulation programs will delay publication of updated guidance for such programs developed by the Airport Cooperative Research Program (ACRP)**
 - The FAA’s PGL is likely to require that changes be made to the ACRP guidance because the PGL is expected to include a new requirement that homes meet an interior noise level criterion of 45 dB DNL in addition to being located in an airport’s 65 dB DNL noise contour
- **Release of the final report on ACRP Project 02-24 “Guidance for Airport Sound Insulation Programs” will likely be extended until early next year**
- **The ACRP project was undertaken to develop updated guidance for airports to use in effectively managing their sound insulation programs in conformance with FAA Noise Compatibility Program (NCP) and Airport Improvement Program (AIP) funding requirements**
- **Airports fear that the new standard set out by the FAA’s PGL may drastically cut the number of homes that are eligible for sound insulation**

NextGen Update: Sea-Tac Airliner Tests Could Yield Quieter Landings

- **On June 11, Alaska Airlines flight from Los Angeles was the first passenger flight into SEA guided down to the runway by signals from a satellite**
- **“Flying along invisible but precise pathways, jets in the trial will smoothly descend with engines at idle until near the runway, saving fuel and reducing emissions”**
 - “The FAA’s co-lead on the project, Doug Marek, compares it to sliding down a banister instead of taking the stairs.”
- **The “Greener Skies Over Seattle” flight trials will continue for up to six months involving airlines such as: Alaska, Horizon Air, US Airways, and Skywest**
 - The FAA’s Marek said, “The purpose of the trial flights is to refine procedures to ensure air traffic controllers can integrate the satellite-guided arrivals seamlessly into the flow of other plane traffic.”
- **Aircraft will save either 14 or 26 miles of flying, depending on their approach route**
 - “The new turn over Elliot Bay rather than farther north should reduce overflights and jet noise for 750,000 Seattle residents in the northern neighborhoods,” said Alaska Airlines spokesman Paul McElroy.

Flight Training Reduction Incentive Program at Santa Monica Airport

- **The Santa Monica City Council was considering a voluntary test incentive program that would have had training flights use other airports**
- **Participating flight schools would receive \$150 for each flight that resulted in a minimum of four takeoffs and four landings conducted at other airports on weekends and federal holidays up to \$90,000 total**
 - Approximately 40% of Santa Monica Airport's traffic are local flights
- **Other SoCal city officials said, "What About Us?"**
 - "It is not fair to pass on the burden to other cities," said James Gazeley, Mayor of the City of Lomita which lies under the flight path to the Torrance Airport
 - Torrance Mayor Frank Scotto said, "We're extremely displeased they are going down this path. If there's an increase in traffic to Torrance Airport we're going to figure out a way to restrict it."
- **Last night, Santa Monica City Manager Rod Gould tabled the proposed test program saying,**
 - "Public fears and perceptions have escalated to the point that it is impossible to imagine that this test would be able to receive fair and objective evaluation."

<http://santamonica.patch.com/articles/santa-monica-ditches-detested-plan-to-divert-noisy-flights>

<http://santamonica.patch.com/articles/santa-monica-to-consider-paying-pilots-to-fly-elsewhere>

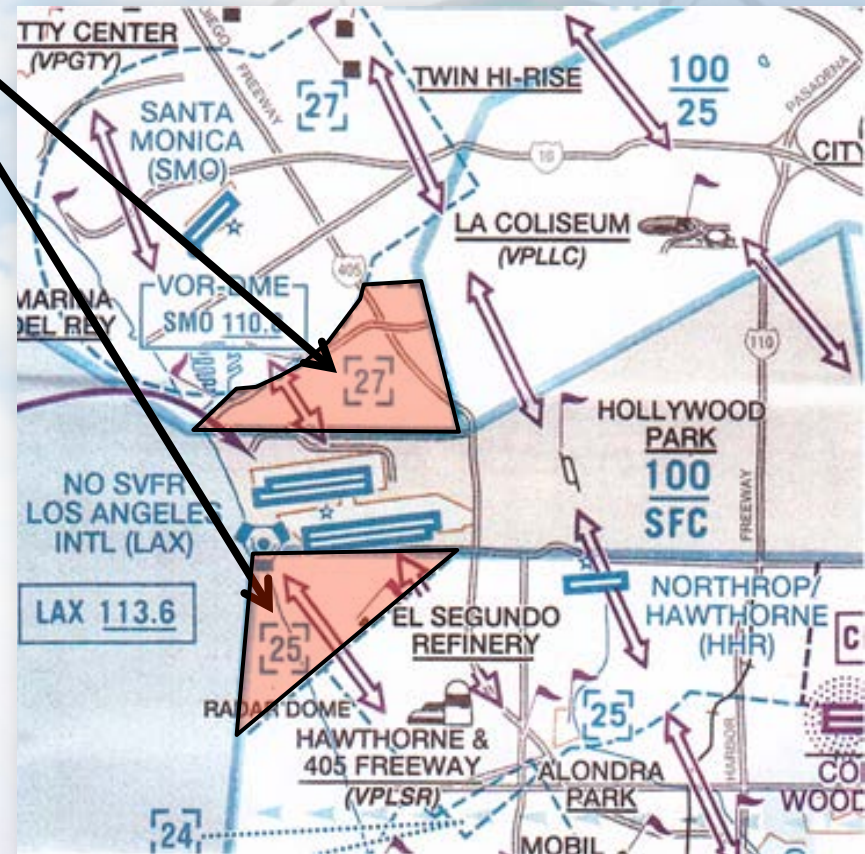
<http://www.smdp.com/Articles-local-news-c-2012-06-27-74296.113116-SoCal-cities-say-no-to-SMO-flight-schools.html>

Two New PARTNER Noise-Related Reports Posted

- **The Partnership for AiR Transportation Noise & Emissions Reduction has released two new reports:**
 - 1. Design for U.S. Field Study in the Effects of Aircraft Noise on Sleep**
 - Project 25: A report on noise exposure response and sleep disturbance prepared by Professor Mathias Basner of the University of Pennsylvania Perelman School of Medicine. The object of the study is to propose an “optimal” study design for U.S. field study on the effects of aircraft noise on sleep and recuperation
 - <http://web.mit.edu/aeroastro/partner/projects/project25.html>
 - 2. Assessment of Windows on Noise Intrusion, Energy Efficiency, and Indoor Air Quality for Residential Buildings Near Airports**
 - Project 26: This research prepared y Kai Ming Li, J. Stuart Bolton, and Qingyan Chen of Purdue University’s Ray W. Herrick Laboratories explores noise ingress through windows in residential buildings, and energy efficiency and the associated effect on indoor air quality as a result of using sound-insulating windows
 - <http://web.mit.edu/aeroastro/partner/projects/project26.html>
- **“PARTNER is a leading aviation cooperative research organization. An FAA Center of Excellence, PARTNER is sponsored by the FAA, NASA, Transport Canada, U.S. Department of Defense, and the Environmental Protection Agency.”**

Additional Class 'D' Airspace Added to LAX

- As of June 28, 2012, additional Class 'D' airspace was added north and south of LAX
- This will give the air traffic control tower control of the airspace directly to the north and south of the Airport
- The Class 'D' airspace requires pilots to make two-way radio communication with LAX tower before entering the airspace
- The Class 'D' airspace north of LAX extends from the surface to 2,700 ft. AGL, the Class 'D' airspace south of LAX extends from the surface to 2,500 ft. AGL
- Pilots wishing to enter the LAX Class 'B' airspace need further clearance and a transponder to enter



FAA to Hold Community Meeting on VNY Helicopter Noise

- **Appeals by Federal lawmakers may bring some relief from the FAA which has agreed to hold a community hearing to solve helicopter noise issues raised by residents close to the Van Nuys Airport (VNY)**
 - Rep. Howard L. Berman said the FAA Acting Administrator Michael Huerta committed to holding a community hearing on helicopter noise in Los Angeles the first week of August
- **“The hearing will take testimony from residents and community groups about specific helicopter noise – where it’s most acute, which operators were the worst offenders, and where they would have the least impact”**
 - Berman went on to say, “I hope that we can find common sense solutions to protect our safety and quality of life.”
- **“Last month, Rep. Berman, Rep. Sherman, and other Federal lawmakers called upon the U.S. transportation officials to quell helicopter noise that is bothersome to L.A. residents”**
- **The date and location of the meeting have not been determined**